

**CB9 Arts and Culture meeting
Monday March 2, 2015
@ Broadway Housing- 583 Riverside**

I. Call to attention: 6:38pm (QUOROM achieved- 7:00pm!)

Present- CB9 Board members

Joyce Adewumi - Chair
Barry Weinberg
Harriet Rosebud
Signe Mortensen
Michael Palma

Present- CB9 Public members

Daria Hardeman (present)

Absent

Jo Johnson
Sabrina Francis

Guests:

Carolyn H Butts- African Voices
Carol Brown- Harlem Opera Theater
Earl Davis- Project Brownstone
Jake Menichino- Artistic Dreams International
Katie Carrol- America Scores New York
Rene Sing- Fortune Society
Jill Pokemba- Fortune Society
Clarisse Mefotso- African Hope Committee
Angela Jackson- Global Language Project

II. Adopt Agenda- approved

III. Adopt minutes- approved

Joyce explained the purpose and timing of NY Multicultural Festival on May 30th.

- Great way to partner and get involved. Made the point that anyone who participates needs an ethnic or multicultural slant.
- We need volunteers, tabling and all sorts of help!
- Go online as a non-profit and register!
- Rosebud- best multicultural event we've seen. Great way to meet people in the district.
- Find the CB9 residents there!

We are a hands-on committee. We connect artists with opportunities and assist the community in any artistic needs they may have. Make a stronger community.

Signe- we will send a follow up email with key points- www.multiculturalfestival.nyc

IV. Introductions/Presentations/Announcements

Introductions

Evelyn Suero/NY Women's Chamber of Commerce- help artists with business assistance- obtaining funds, crowdfunding.

Evelyn is an artist as well- how to make your art into a business.

Clarisse- African Hope Committee – meet and work with artists who need immigration assistance- presenting tonight

Carolyn Butts- Africa Voices- publish a magazine by same name and deal with visual, writer, film makers. Let young and adult know careers in the arts. In April have a children's bookwriting workshop (for adults)

Carol Brown- Harlem Opera Theater Founder and secretary of board since 2001

- concerts, recitals, vocal competitions.
- June 26/27 collaborating with Morningside Opera and Harlem Chamber Player- Harry Laurence Freeman- black composer who was colleague of Scott Joplin. First black person to go into Carnegie. 1928- music has not been done since then.
- Opera for beginners in schools
- Concerts- civil rights march

Earl Davis- Exec Dir of Project Brownstone-

- ways to empower and develop teens and youth through Education tools and arts- move forward in their lives in positive way.
- Textbook stipend, cultural exchanges with youth
- Work with guidance counselors who help target kids and create one on one relationships.

Jill Peb/Rene Sing- Fortune Society (Castle Gardens)-

- Theater, music, videos students have produced.
- Climate Justice, Social Justice Always looking to partner with organizations.
- Arts Festival in April. Spring Art series at Castle gardens. For youth and adults impacted by the criminal justice system.

Angela Jackson – Global language Project-

- teach mandarin Arabic Spanish and French. Upcoming summer activities

Harriet R- excited to see everyone and let artists and board members know what all these amazing groups are doing

Jake Menichino- Artistic Dreams international

- 7-12- free Saturday programming

- PS IS 210
- PS 36
- Visual Arts program
- Getting choral program off the ground
- Cultural appreciation and teach children learn songs in 5 different languages
- Need to connect with Global Language Project

Katie Carrol- America Scores NY

- Soccer, creative writing and community service.
- Poetry slam- Joyce was a judge and finals
- Connect with Earl Davis of Project Brownstone

Michael Palma- Montefiore Park Neighborhood Assn with Basia

- gearing up for Spring and Summer.
- Expanding park with city in future.
- Park is open for activities. It's my Park days

Signe M- Opera singer and resident activist, WHEC, 30th Precinct etc

Joyce A- 30th Precinct, Nonprofit founder and administrator, African Classical singer, etc

Joyce said we are excited to see you all and the connections made here are important in strengthening and building our community.

Presentations-

African Hope Committee Inc- Clarisse Mefotso Fall, ED

- Immigration Services- can help artists navigate their immigration status
- Help LGBTQ who are not able to return to their home countries and are "stuck"
- Many did great in their country but are challenged in US
- Sliding scale fee but it depends on situation they aim to not turn anyone away.

Global Language Project- Angela Jackson, Founder and ED

Empowering Students to Succeed Through Language in a Globalized World

- 2009- partnered with elementary schools to teach kids a second language
- if they start young they will be fluent in high school and open their opportunities in future.
- Program Management- help schools start language programs- structure, find a teacher, train a teacher
- K-5 Curriculum in languages- schools
- Pro development with teachers
- Collaborate with organizations

FACTS:

- 1 in 5 jobs will be tied to China soon!
- 30% of US economic trade is tied to international trade
- Less than 15% of public schools teach languages

A FUTURE for our kids:

Jobs of the future- languages required now so imagine 20 years from now.
 Make children employable
 Travel- See the world- learning about cultures-

- CB9 project- grant from State Department. Arabic, Mandarin
- Training program for teachers and they will do community service.
- Summer Camps need apply!

Questions:

What are you doing in CB9?

- She is meeting with CB9 schools to help them start a language program.
- Teacher training program prepares teachers from other countries to teach in Western school

How does it work?

- School principal would commit to an after school program or otherwise and she would help.

What programs in CB9 at present?

- PS 368
- Brotherhood/Sistersol
- Harlem RBI
- Columbia Secondary School

The Fortune Society – Rene Signer Jill Poklemba, SD and Grant Development

Rene Sing- Teaches media workshop at 625 W 140th St

- Started 6 years ago- People who came to their computer workshops seemed to have a story to tell so started media workshop.
- Started with older than 40 and looking for computer skills
- Media Lab at Fortune Society
- Received WHDC funding to combine efforts with GED classes to help students to develop writing skills and turn experiences into Media outlet. Exploring community through story and media

With previous grant \$\$- provided Still photography workshops – led to an exhibit of photography.

- Asked students to go into community and take pics with cameras they provided.
- Discussed and part of larger project.
- Attracted attention of local filmmakers and began to collaborate and used some of their students to produce a film!
- Many of the students come from criminal justice system and they are provided tools and opportunity to get involved!

Current WHDC Grant:

- Funding expanded their work stations so they can have more hands on experience for students
- Adding audio work stations for students this year

Questions:

- Joyce commends them and giving folks at FS opportunities
- Future projects might include collaboration. i.e. America Scores teaches writing poetry- would have loved to see the process. Perhaps some of the projects in future will include the CB9 and WHDC organizations.
- This year they are intergenerational and reaching out to the community. Filmmaking includes lots of mediums in arts (writing, acting, etc). Invite community to use their workspace and show screenings.
- Earl Davis- looking for film editors (up and coming) to test out and there may be a paid opportunity in the end. - YES! Networking in action!
- Perhaps Fortune Society can host our meeting one month.
- How many CB9 residents in program?
 - MOST! This year 5 editors and 3 are from CB9
 - Not exclusive to but help those who have been in criminal justice system.
- Photography workshop is coming up- Marvin McCrea- starts this Friday 3pm @ 625 location. FREE for all but preference to those with CJ system background.

CB9 A&C addressed the attendees:

- We want to hear your concerns so we can guide the proper dispersing of these funds artist space- how can artists apply for these spaces- “in kind” benefits.
- We need to know what your needs are and we will take it back to the SP committee.

Global Language

- Space is always an issue. They partner with schools because they can't find space of their own they use schools and partner with schools. They could make it free or low charge if had own space.
- 2-3 week emersion camp! Needs 3 hours for 2-3 weeks.

Broadway Housing Spaces

Spaces are “for rent” out of economic necessity. Preferred rate for community based organizations.

Columbia on the other hand has space! – need a procedure

WHDC grantees should get a priority for these spaces.

Earl Davis- Price is prohibitive for Columbia spaces- he does an annual event there.

We are looking to strengthen our artistic community and create a global artistic sense and put a spotlight on what art is.

Rene Sing- did not know the neighborhood when they started. Is there a database of artistic resources in our area.

Don't forget Culture- we often forget this part of our committee.

Daria addressed Earl Davis of Project Brownstone-

- concerned about the targeting of underprivileged kids and might be overlooking the "A" student. What about the kids who really are trying- is there a place for them?

Earl: They profile the child and what they are about. Not everyone is made for books. They just need to want better.

Our goal is to make sure the organizations are getting the assistance they need.

Please showcase the work you are doing at the Multicultural Festival!

Carol- Harlem Opera asked – if I am young parent in CB9 where are my resources? Families don't know. If there is a "311" kind of place to help guide you in finding the resources and the details, deadlines, where are charter schools, where are culinary arts,

Invite schools and pair them with these organizations

Announcements

V. Subcommittee reports

Artists Directory Subcomm- Barry

- Joyce spoke to Kim (IT) and we are close. Barry to email the link to Kim and we are very close.

Artists Org Outreach Subcomm- Michael Palma/ Daria H

- Would like to push out the information of database to all.

Archives subcommittee- Jo Johnson

- None at this time

Events subcommittee- Signe

- Explained how to be co-sponsored with CB9
Criteria: join 3 consecutive meetings

Marketing subcommittee- Harriet

- Promoting events
- Working on Concept- got some things from graphic designer
- Put out material

Resolution Committee – Sabrina Francis

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Strategic Planning Committee- Harriet/Signe

- Plan to have a meeting with WHDC to discuss concerns of artist organizations

VI: Old Business

Partnering on Arts Stroll- NOMA

- We will follow up with them soon about May 30

NYC Multicultural Festival

- Not a typical street fair
- This is an event so everything is rented- table/chairs/etc
- Program – ad space
- Love yourself pavilion, childrens' international pavilion
- Media and interact with kids (Fortune society)
- Hat walk- with Hamilton Grange
- America Scores and Artistic Dreams did great programs with kids
- Fill out application at www.multiculturalfestival.nyc to participate in the NYC Multicultural Festival.

Signe- write letter to church to use indoor space for NYPD

Daria- letter to HSA requesting their space and help (Signe look for letter)

Everyone sign up as a non-profit vendor on website and we will connect you with the right person.

VII: New Business

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**VII: Motion to adjourn-
Motion passed**

Thank you for coming and see you next time!

Meeting closed: 9:05

Respectfully submitted by Signe Mortensen